



**U.S. Department of Justice
Federal Bureau of Prisons**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Office of Public Affairs
(202) 514-6551

Inmate Death at FDC Miami

WASHINGTON, D.C.: On Tuesday, July 21, 2020, inmate Jose Mario Gallego Zapata tested positive for COVID-19 at the Federal Detention Center (FDC) in Miami, Florida. On Thursday, July 23, 2020, Mr. Zapata was transported to a local hospital for treatment and evaluation of COVID-19 and an abnormal chest x-ray. Mr. Zapata's condition worsened and he was placed on a ventilator on Sunday, July 26, 2020 due to complications from COVID-19. On Wednesday, August 12, 2020, Mr. Zapata, who had pre-existing medical conditions, which the CDC lists as risk factors for developing more severe COVID-19 disease, was pronounced dead by hospital staff.

Mr. Zapata was a 66-year-old male who was sentenced in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Florida to 135 months for Conspiracy to Distribute Five Kilograms of Cocaine. He had been in custody at FDC Miami since July 31, 2019.

FDC Miami is an Administrative security facility that currently houses 1,056 male and female offenders.

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